

ELLAND URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

for 1943.

VITAL STATISTICS.

Births. The birth rate per 1000 of the estimated resident population is 15.1
The national figure is 16.5
The rate of still births per 1000 of the population is .033
The national figure is .51

Deaths. The death rate per 1000 of the estimated resident population is 15.5
The national figure is 12.1
The infantile mortality rate per 1000 live births is 40.7
The national figure is 49

There was one death from maternal causes.
The national figure per 1000 live and still births is .57

General Provision of Health Services for the Area.

The following officials are employed by the Council:-

Medical Officer of Health - Frederick Clegg, M.B., CL.B. (Leeds).

Sanitary Inspectors - H. E. Moses, A.R. San. I.

A. D. Jackson, A.R. San. I.

Nurses and Midwives supplied by the County and Voluntary Nursing Associations serve the district.

Free pathological and bacteriological services are provided at County Hall.

These services are also obtainable from Dr. H. V. Phelon at the Royal Halifax Infirmary at a charge.

The Council has its own Ambulance for general and accident cases and no charge is made. At least 4 other ambulances are available for payment.

Three Hospitals, viz:- Royal Halifax Infirmary, Halifax General Hospital and Huddersfield Royal Infirmary are accessible and commonly used. Leeds General Infirmary, twenty miles away, is also available.

The Brighouse Isolation Hospital is in common use by the Council. The Halifax and Huddersfield Isolation Hospitals are also available.

The Council share a Smallpox Hospital with other local authorities.

There is a venereal clinic in Halifax and Huddersfield.

In both Elland and Greetland the County have an Infant Welfare Centre. Sessions are held weekly. Once per month an ante natal is held in each place. A lady doctor is in charge.

The usual school dental services are provided and extractions are undertaken by honorary dentists at the Royal Halifax Infirmary.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA.

WATER.

Bulk supplies are obtained from the Halifax and Huddersfield Corporations. Two small reservoirs at Stainland and Upper Greetland also serve the district.

The supply in all cases is satisfactory in both quantity and quality. No extensions have been made during the year. During the year 28 Bacteriological and 20 analytical samples of Public Water Supplies were examined by the Public Analyst all of which were satisfactory.

During the year plants were completed to treat the whole of the public water supplies for plumbo-solvency and these are operating satisfactorily. The whole of the public water supplies in the district are now chlorinated and treated for plumbo-solvency before distribution.

Tests are taken regularly for p.H value and chlorine residue, 55 samples being examined by the Waterworks Engineer during the year.

CLOSET ACCOMMODATION.

These may be classified as follows :-

Privies with open middens	6
Pail Tub Closets	466
Privies with covered middens	91
Waste Water Closets	368
Water Closets	4681

There were 12 conversions to water closets from existing closets.

PUBLIC CLEANSING.

Public scavenging operated throughout the district at a year's cost of £4510.

The refuse was disposed of as follows :-

Destruction	48%
Tipping	32%
Farmers	20%

Collection of Salvage has increased the work of this department. 433 tons 17½ cwt. have been sorted and sold bringing in an income of £1620.15s.0d. during the year.

SHOPS AND OFFICES.

The Sanitary Inspectors paid 174 visits to shops (excluding butchers) under Shops Act 1934. In 3 instances unsatisfactory conditions were found. These have since been rectified.

SWIMMING BATHS AND POOLS.

There is one Public Swimming Bath in the district owned by the Urban District Council. The water is kept in a clean condition by a Bell's Chlorination and Filter Plant.

2 chemical and 2 bacteriological samples taken during the year were all satisfactory.

ERADICATION OF BED BUGS, ETC.

During the year 8 houses were found to be bug infested (of which six were Council Houses).

In addition two non-Council houses were found to be infested by wood beetles and one non-Council house was found to have fleas.

In all cases disinfection was satisfactorily carried out.

SCHOOLS.

There are 10 schools in the district all of which are in a satisfactory state.

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.

MEAT AND OTHER FOODS.

There are 15 private slaughter houses in the district - 8 registered and 7 licensed. These were not used during the year owing to operation of Ministry of Food Orders.

The Sanitary Inspectors paid 365 visits to Butcher's shops and 55 visits to bakehouses.

92 Food Complaints were investigated under the Food and Drugs Act, 1938, and the total weight condemned was 4 tons 17 cwt 59½ lbs.

MILK SUPPLY.

There are 89 registered Milk sellers in the district and 16 registered wholesale traders.

The number of Cowkeepers is 93 who house 1095 cows in 121 cowsheds.

The total number of cowshed inspections was 294.

There are 3 licenses in force for the production of tuberculin tested milk and 15 for accredited milk.

The number of milk samples taken by the Sanitary Inspectors under the Food and Drugs Act, 1938, for analysis was 107. Of these 6 were adulterated. There were no prosecutions but cautions in all 6 cases were issued by the West Riding County Council.

The County Council take samples for examination for bacterial content and tubercle bacilli.

The structural conditions of the cowsheds are generally good and cleanliness and methods are of a good standard. A more general adoption of steam sterilization of utensils is desirable.

TUBERCULOSIS.

New cases of Mortality for the year were as follows :-

Age Periods.	New Cases.				Deaths.			
	Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary		Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary.	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
Under 1								
1 -			1	1				
5 -			4	1				
10 -				2				
15 -	1	1				1		
25 -	1		1	.	1	1		
35 -	2							
45 -		1						
55 -	1			1				
65 & over								
TOTALS	5	2	6	5	1	2	-	-

A survey of the Tuberculosis Register at the end of the year shows the following figures :-

Pulmonary	- Males	37	Females	33
Non-Pulmonary-	"	47	"	26

Most of the above cases keep in touch with the dispensary at Sowerby Bridge or are visited regularly by a Doctor and Nurse from this Department.

Prevalence of and Control over Infectious Diseases.

Below is a table showing the number of cases notified during 1943 :-

Age Periods	Scarlet Fever	Whooping Cough	Diphtheria	Measles	Acute Pneumonia	Cerebro Spinal Fever	Acute Polio-myelitis	Dysentery	Puerperal Pyrexia	Erysipelas	Totals
Under 1	1	3		2							6
1 -		6		4							10
2 -	3	3	1	3							10
3 -	3	5		9		1					18
4 -	4	7	1	8	3						23
5 -	37	11	11	11			1	1			72
10 -	13	2	4	1	1						21
15 -	2	1	1		1						5
20 -	3	1	3		2				1	2	12
35 -	6				6					1	13
45 -	3				7	1				7	18
65 & over					3					5	8
TOTALS	75	39	21	38	23	2	1	1	1	15	216

DEATHS FROM INFECTIOUS DISEASES -

Cerebro-Spinal Fever	1
Whooping Cough	2
Acute Poliomyelitis	1
Pneumonia	<u>8</u>
	<u>12</u>

There were 42 cases sent to Isolation Hospital as follows :-

Scarlet Fever	27
Diphtheria	14
Chicken Pox	<u>1</u> (not notifiable)
	<u>42</u>

Cases are sent to Hospital :-

- (a) If they are seriously or dangerously ill and in consequence need hospital treatment.
- (b) If they cannot be effectively isolated or nursed at home.
- (c) If the infectious disease is acquired whilst in one of the town hospitals.

No disease became prevalent at any time of the year.

DIPHTHERIA IMMUNISATION. Immunisation against diphtheria was carried out at the 2 Infant Welfare Centres, at the schools and by private practitioners with the following results :-

Total No. of Children (under 5 yrs) immunised	=	308
" " " " (between 5-15 yrs) "	=	<u>330</u>
		<u>638</u>

It was known that 3 of the cases of diphtheria had been immunised, and the other 18 cases had not been so treated.

FREDERICK CLEGG, M.B., CL.B.,

Medical Officer of Health,

Council Offices,

Elland.

